

32. (Amended) [The computer of claim 31] A computer comprising:
a processor;
a computer-readable medium; and
a computer program capable of being executed from the computer-readable medium by
the processor to modulate a transparency of an image of an object as a function of an angle of
incidence of a vector at a surface of the object, the vector being normal to a viewing surface,
wherein the function comprises a cosine function.

34. (Amended) [The computer of claim 31] A computer comprising:
a processor;
a computer-readable medium; and
a computer program capable of being executed from the computer-readable medium by
the processor to modulate a transparency of an image of an object as a function of an angle of
incidence of a vector at a surface of the object, the vector being normal to a viewing surface,
wherein the function comprises a non-linear function.

37. (Amended) [The computer readable medium of claim 35, wherein the method further comprises:] A computer readable medium having computer-executable instructions stored
thereon for performing a method, the method comprising:
modulating a transparency of an image of an object as a function of an angle of incidence
of a vector at a surface of the object, the vector being normal to a viewing surface; and
modulating the transparency non-linearly.

REMARKS

The Applicant's representative has reviewed and considered the Advisory Action mailed on January 27, 2003. Claim 20 stands allowed. Claims 21, 23, 25, 27, 29-31, 33, 35, and 36 have been cancelled. Claims 22, 24, 26, 28, 32, 34, and 37 have been amended. As a result, claims 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 32, 34, and 37 are now pending in the Application.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 21, 23, 25, 27, 29-31, 33, and 35-36 have been rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as being anticipated by Shinohara (U.S. Patent No. 5,880,735, hereinafter "Shinohara"). However, all of these claims have been cancelled. Therefore the rejection is moot.

Claim Objections

The Examiner has objected to claims 22, 24, 26, 28, 32, 34, and 37, but has indicated they would be allowable if amended to incorporate the limitations of rejected based claims. Thus, amendments have been made to incorporate the limitations of independent base claims, and not for any reason related to patentability. Claim 37 has also been amended to correct several antecedent basis errors.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to telephone the Applicant's attorney, Mark Muller, at (210) 308-5677, or the undersigned attorney, to facilitate prosecution of this application. If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

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February 19, 2003

By

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Box AF, Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this 20 day of February, 2003.

Anne M. Richards

Name

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